

THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO



TONI ATKINS
COUNCILMEMBER
THIRD DISTRICT

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Community Workshop To Explore Options For Historic Teacher Training Annex

SAN DIEGO—Third District City Councilmember Toni Atkins and the University Heights Library Task Force will conduct a community workshop Saturday morning, April 26, 2003, to explore options for the historic Teacher Training Annex.

The building, a University Heights landmark at the junction of Park Boulevard, El Cajon Boulevard and Normal Street, was constructed in 1910. It has long been eyed by the community as a potential replacement for the under-sized University Heights Branch Library. While the building is owned by the San Diego Unified School District, school officials have indicated a willingness to transfer the building to the City. In recent years, seismic concerns have relegated the building to a storage facility for school records.

"The community has made it clear that they would like the building to be renovated and used as a library or some other public function," said Councilmember Atkins. "Since there are a number of options, the architects and engineers will need to have a clear sense of the community's priorities before they can begin the feasibility analysis."

Last year, Councilmember Toni Atkins was able to secure up to \$250,000 to conduct a feasibility study of the building to explore the possibility of returning it to functional public use. The structure is expected to present particular challenges due to its age, lack of ADA accessibility, seismic needs, and its floor plan, which is divided into classrooms.

City Engineer Kelly Rogers has been named Project Manager for the study. She will work with the community as well as library staff to determine the scope of work for a team of architects and engineers that will be selected to conduct the study.

The community workshop will be held at the Birney Elementary School auditorium, 4345 Campus Avenue from 9 AM to 11:30 AM. For further information, contact Stephen Hill in Councilmember Atkins' office at (619) 236-6633.

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